GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4910
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2000
SETTLEMENT OF LAC WITH CHINA
Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Experts Group of India and China resumed discussions on issues relating to the Line of Actual Control along the Indo-Sino Border;

(b) if so, whether discussions on these issues have been continuing; and

(c) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to bring about an amicable settlement of LAC between India and China?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) : Yes, Sir. During the 7th Meeting of the India-China Expert Group of Diplomatic and Military Officials (EG), which is a sub-group of the India-China Joint Working Group on the Boundary Question (JWG), held in New Delhi on November 24, 1999, issues relating to the Line of Actual Control (LAC), were discussed.

(b) : Yes, Sir. The discussions on this issue will continue at the JWG-XII, scheduled to be held on April 28-29, 2000 in New Delhi.

(c) : The resolution of the boundary question between India and China is outstanding.The two sides have differences in perception of LAC in the India-China border areas.India and China have reiterated the objective of seeking a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question through dialogue and clarifying the alignment of the LAC in those segments where they have different perceptions. The Agreement on Maintenance of Peace and Tranquillity along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China Border Areas (1993) and the Agreement on Confidence Building Measures in the Military Field along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China Border Areas (1996) provide an institutional framework for the maintenance of peace and tranquillity in the India-China border areas. The border areas have generally remained peaceful.